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FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7953
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 8757
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 2497
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY 9995
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0977
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 1603
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0148
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

UNCLAS DHAKA 001303

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SCA/PB, SCA/FO, US/UN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AMGT](#) [AORC](#) [APER](#) [BG](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [UNGA](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO BANGLADESH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ON UNITED NATIONS HARMONIZATION OF CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

REF: STATE 129988

11. (U) On December 15, PolOff met with the Senior Assistant Secretary from the Americas, Pacific and Counterterrorism wing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to encourage support for the U.S. proposal regarding harmonized conditions of service and streamlined contractual agreements at the United Nations. PolOff urged the GOB to support the U.S. proposal instead of either UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon's proposal based on the Special Operations Approach (SOA) or the proposal made to the UN'S Fifth Committee in March.

12. (U) The Senior Assistant Secretary responded that the Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be sure to fully consider the U.S. proposal. She acknowledged that the United States' concerns regarding recruitment and retention of staff in the field were valid. She also agreed that it was important to consider factors such as career advancement and training opportunities, not merely financial compensation, when looking at low retention rates in the field.

Comment

13. (U) The Senior Assistant Secretary was unwilling to commit Bangladesh's support to the U.S. proposal at this time. With only two weeks left in power, Bangladesh's Caretaker Government is a lame duck administration and will unlikely make any decisions in the next few weeks. Bangladesh is scheduled to hold Parliamentary elections on December 29, and a new government is expected to take office in mid-January.
MORIARTY